



98TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State of Illinois

2013 and 2014

HB4497

by Rep. John D. Cavaletto

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

305 ILCS 5/12-4.4a new

Amends the Illinois Public Aid Code. Provides that on and after January 1, 2015, electronic benefits transfer ("LINK") cards used to obtain SNAP benefits or cash shall contain the name and photo of the primary cardholder and, at the option of the primary cardholder, the names of secondary holders who are authorized to use the card. Establishes that an individual may only use the LINK card if the photo on the card matches the user or he or she presents a current and valid photo identification that confirms he or she is a secondary user listed on the card. Provides that on the effective date of the amendatory Act the Department of Human Services shall begin the process of transitioning to the use of LINK cards which contain the name and photo of the primary cardholder and list the names of all authorized users of the card. Requires the transition to be completed no later than January 1, 2015. Effective immediately.

LRB098 17240 KTG 52333 b

FISCAL NOTE ACT
MAY APPLY

A BILL FOR

1 AN ACT concerning public aid.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

4 Section 5. The Illinois Public Aid Code is amended by
5 adding Section 12-4.4a as follows:

6 (305 ILCS 5/12-4.4a new)

7 Sec. 12-4.4a. SNAP; electronic benefits transfer card;
8 photo identification.

9 (a) In this Section:

10 "LINK card" means an electronic benefits transfer card
11 issued by the Department of Human Services for the purpose of
12 enabling the cardholder to obtain SNAP benefits (formerly known
13 as food stamps) or cash.

14 "SNAP" means the federal Supplemental Nutrition Assistance
15 Program (formerly known as the Food Stamp Program).

16 (b) On and after January 1, 2015, LINK cards used to obtain
17 SNAP benefits or cash shall contain the name and photo of the
18 primary cardholder. In addition, the card shall contain, at the
19 option of the primary cardholder, the names of secondary
20 cardholders who are authorized to use the card to obtain SNAP
21 benefits or cash. An individual may use the LINK card to obtain
22 benefits only if:

23 (1) he or she is the primary cardholder listed on the

1 card and the photo on the card matches the user; or
2 (2) he or she is the secondary cardholder listed on the
3 card and he or she shows a current and valid photo
4 identification that confirms he or she is a secondary user
5 listed on the card.

6 (c) On the effective date of this amendatory Act of the
7 98th General Assembly, the Department of Human Services shall
8 begin the process of transitioning to the use of LINK cards
9 which contain the name and photo of the primary cardholder and
10 list the names of all authorized users of the card. This
11 transition shall be completed no later than January 1, 2015.

12 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon
13 becoming law.